An Extract of a Letter, written to the Publiſher by Mr. J. L. *about poiſonous Fiſh in one of the* Bahama *Iſlands.*

Sir,

I Do herewith ſend you an account, I lately received from *New-Providence*, one of the *Bahama* Iſlands, concerning *Fiſh* there, which is as followeth;

I have not met with any rarities here worth that acceptance, though I have been diligent in inquiring after them: Of thoſe which I have heard of, this ſeems moſt remarkable to me. The Fiſh, that are here, are many of them poyſonous, bringing a great pain on their joynts who eat them, which continues ſo for ſome ſhort time, and at laſt with two or three dayes itching the pain is rubb'd off. Thoſe of the ſame ſpecies, ſize, ſhapes, colour and taſte, are one of them poyſon, the other not in the leaſt hurtful: And thoſe that are, are ſo only to *ſome* of the company. The diſtemper to Men never, that we hear of, proves mortal. Doggs and Cats ſometimes eat their laſt. In men that have once had that diſeaſe, upon the firſt eating of fiſh, though it be thoſe that are wholſom, the poiſonous ferment in their body is revived thereby, and their pain increaſed.

Thus far the ingenious perſon from whom I had this relation, who having been but a very little while upon the Iſland when he writ this, could not ſend ſo perfect an account of this odd Obſervation, as one could wiſh, or as I expect to hear from him in anſwer to ſome *Queres* I lately ſent him by a Ship bound thither. When his Anſwer comes to my hand, if there be any thing in it, which may gratifie your curioſity, I ſhall be glad of that or any other occaſion to aſſure you, that I am, *&c.*